EU and the Republic of Moldova adopt Association Agenda

The Cooperation Council endorsed today an Association Agenda between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova, just one day before the historic signature of the Association Agreement between the two sides.

The Association Agenda establishes a set of jointly agreed priorities for the period 2014 – 2016 with a view to preparing for the implementation of the Association Agreement, including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA).

The Association Agenda replaces the European Union – Republic of Moldova European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan of 22 February 2005. It creates an up-to-date practical framework for achieving political association and economic integration between the EU and the Republic of Moldova. The Association Agenda incorporates political elements, including political dialogue, reforms to strengthen democratic institutions, the rule of law, independence of the judiciary, respect for human rights, cooperation on foreign and security policy as well as peaceful conflict resolution, and cooperation on Justice, Freedom, and Security. The Association Agenda also incorporates economic and trade elements, including a dedicated DCFTA chapter and cooperate on in a number of sectors such as energy, transport, employment and social policy.
The Cooperation Council underlines the continued economic and social importance of trade with the European Union for the Transnistrian region. It acknowledges the importance of reaching out to the population, the business community and the de-facto authorities of the region. It reiterates its commitment to such dialogue in order to make the advantageous reciprocal trade regime of the Association Agreement applicable on the whole territory of the Republic of Moldova in full respect of international law.